

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3202
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C O R R E C T E D C O P Y T E X T

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEC, PFOR
SUBJECT: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, MARCH 8, 1977: CALLAGHAN
TRIP TO WASHINGTON

1. IN RESPONSE TO PRESS QUESTIONS FOLLOWING THE MARCH 8
EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, UK FOREIGN SECRETARY DAVID
OWEN MADE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT CONCERNING PRIME MINISTER
CALLAGHAN'S TRIP TO WASHINGTON. QUOTE THE PRIME MINISTER
AND I ARE GOING TO WASHINGTON PRIMARILY AS UK POLITICIANS;
WE ARE NOT GOING ON BEHALF OF THE EC. WE HAVE HAD IN-
FORMAL DISCUSSIONS WITH OUR EC COLLEAGUES ON A NUMBER OF
ITEMS AND WILL CONVEY EC POSITIONS TO THE CARTER ADMINIS-
TRATION IF ASKED. WE WOULD WEAR TWO HATS IN SUCH IN-
STANCES. BUT THE PRIME MINISTER IS NOT GOING AS PRESIDENT
OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL, AND I AM NOT GOING AS PRESIDENT
OF THE EC COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. THAT IS AN IMPORTANT
DISTINCTION TO MAKE. END QUOTE.

2. OWEN ALSO TOLD REPORTERS THAT, DURING THE COUNCIL
SESSION, THE FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD CONTINUED THEIR INFORMAL
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DISCUSSIONS ON THE CALLAGHAN TRIP, BEGUN THE DAY BEFORE
AT A 10 DOWNING STREET LUNCH FOLLOWING THE MEMORIAL
SERVICE FOR ANTHONY CROSLAND. ACCORDING TO UK AND
BELGIAN PERMDEL SOURCES, THE MINISTERS STRESSED INTER-
NATIONAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS (INCLUDING THE UNCTAD
COMMON FUND), ENERGY, AND US/EC RELATIONS AS TOPICS
THEY WISHED CALLAGHAN TO RAISE IN WASHINGTON (ALTHOUGH

THESE REPORTS DO SEEM AT ODDS WITH OWEN'S STATEMENT PARA .1).
HINTON

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Message Attributes

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